

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 PRS-01 IO-12 RSR-01 /077 W

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R 240841 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7967

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3309

1. ADMIRAL NOEL GAYLER CALLED ON PRESIDENT PARK IN THE COURSE OF AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO KOREA. CALL WENT OVERTIME TO ONE HOUR AND TWENTY MINUTES AS PRESIDENT SHOWED KEEN INTEREST IN CINCPAC'S VIEWS ON MILITARY SITUATION AND OVER- ALL STRATEGY IN ASIA.

2. ADMIRAL GAYLER GAVE PRESIDENT PARK AN EXCELLENT RUNDOWN ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND A GENERAL OVER- VIEW OF THE SITUATION AND DEPLOYMENT OF U. S. FORCES IN EAST ASIA. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS STRONG BELIEF IN THE NECESSITY FOR FORWARD DEPLOYMENT OF U. S. GROUND, AIR AND NAVAL FORCES. HE NOTED NORTH KOREAN BASIC OBJECTIVE OF SECURING THE WITHDRAWAL OF U. S. FORCES FROM KOREAN PENINSULA AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED U. S. PRESENCE AS A DETERRENT. HE STATED HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE COMMITMENTS GIVEN TO KOREA BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE ADMINISTRATION. HOWEVER, TAKING NOTE OF THE ATTITUDE IN THE CONGRESS, HE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN THAT THERE WOULD BE AN EROSION OF U. S. SUPPORT FOR THIS POLICY.

3. I THINK THE VISIT WAS EXTREMELY WORTHWHILE AS PART

OF A CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH PRESIDENT PARK IN REGARD TO THE MILITARY SITUATION IN ASIA GENERALLY AND SOUTHEAST ASIA. HE MAINTAINS A STRONG RESIDUAL INTEREST IN THE
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LATTER AREA, AS A RESULT OF HIS OWN FORCES SERVING THERE
AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE DEVELOPMENTS IN
INDO- CHINA HAVE FOR ASIA AS A WHOLE.
HABIB

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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